

As an employee of a nonprofit science education organization, I rely on fax communications to reach K-12 teachers across North Carolina to invite them to a free professional development workshop series aimed at improving science literacy in North Carolina. Without the use of fax communications to invite these teachers to this program, it would be virtually impossible for these teachers to learn of this opportunity. While we do e-mail notices and mail printed brochures to our audience to promote this series, it is, in fact, the faxed applications that are the most successful in reaching the teachers. These faxed invitations bring in the majority of registrants. It would be terribly time consuming to collect permission from the nearly 2,000 public, private and federal K-12 schools in advance of these faxed promotions. Our resources would be depleted, valuable time spent, and ultimately educators would no longer receive a free service for which they value (as consistently reported in evaluations of this workshop program). On behalf of the North Carolina Association for Biomedical Research, I urge you to continue to allow groups -- nonprofits in particular -- the freedom to reach the public with valuable services by way of fax communications.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Wood
Director of Programs and Communications
N.C. Association for Biomedical Research (NCABR)